

TOTANUS STAGNATILIS.

Marsh Sandpiper.

Totanus stagnatilis, Temm. Man. d'Orn., tom. iv. p. 414.—Gould, Birds of Europe, vol. iv. pl. 314.

I SHOT A Specimen of this bird on the banks of the Lower Mokai on the 16th of December 1839: on comparing it with Indian and European specimens, I find the whole to be identical; the Australian bird is however somewhat lighter in colour. The individual above-mentioned was feeding on the bank close to the water's edge: from its being the only one I had ever seen alive, I was more desirous of procuring it than of watching its actions, and as no opportunity afterwards occurred of my so doing, I am unable to give any particulars respecting them.

Face, fore-part of the neck and all the under surface white.

Crown of the head and neck grey, streaked longitudinally with black; upper surface grey, each feather with a lighter margin; wings blackish brown; tail white, marked with diagonal bars of brown; forehead, rump and all the under surface white; bill dark greenish olive, tipped with brown; legs sickly olive-yellow; irides blackish brown.

The bird is figured of the natural size.

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